

A RESOLUTION to honor William "Hercules" Boyd on winning
The First Annual Mule Day Chariot Races.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those exemplary functions that contribute to the storied heritage of our state; and

WHEREAS, "Mule Day" in Columbia is one such function where Tennesseans can express their civic pride on a national and international level; and

WHEREAS, mule trading and dealing has gone on in Columbia since 1840, and this fair city has come to be known as the "Mule Capital of the World" by sponsoring the largest mule day celebration in the world today; and

WHEREAS, the original founders of "Mule Day" were Mr. Norman H. Parks, Mr. Charley Skillington and Mr. Thomas Brown; and

WHEREAS, the first annual Mule Day Chariot Races were held on Thursday, March 30, 1995, at Maury County Park; and

WHEREAS, the winner of the "celebrity" race was William "Hercules" Boyd, mayor of the City of Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the races were sponsored by the Maury County Chamber of Commerce and the Maury County Convention and Visitors' Bureau. Also competing in the "celebrity" category were: Ed "Ben Hur" Harlan, County Executive; Freeman "Caesar" Cowherd, Mayor of the Town of Spring Hill, Tennessee; and Larry "Spartacus" Smithson, Mayor of the City of Columbia, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, some of the more distinguished past grand marshals include Governor Gordon H. Browning, Billy Carter, Archie Campbell, Bill Monroe, Governor Lamar Alexander and Governor Ned McWherter; and

WHEREAS, "Mule Day" has been recognized as one of the top 20 events in the Southeast, and has drawn visitors from all 50 states, Japan, Canada, Germany, Mexico, England, and many other countries; and

WHEREAS, celebrated during the first weekend in April each year, "Mule Day" is sponsored by the Maury County Bridle and Saddle Club; and

WHEREAS, local revenue generated from the "Mule Day" festivities are shared with such worthy causes as the Epilepsy Foundation, Amyotrophic Day Care, the DARE Drug Program, the Shrine Burn Center, the March of Dimes, the Civil Defense, the Special Olympics, and others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to recognize "Mule Day" and its fine host, the city of Columbia, for the outstanding manner in which they represent the great state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor "Mule Day" and recognize William "Hercules" Boyd on winning the first annual "Mule Day" Chariot Races.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.